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PATENT Attorney Docket No. SUR-008

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RECEIVED

APPLICANT(S):

Sawan et al.

SERIAL NO.:

09/392,842

GROUP NO.:

1619

IAN 24 2001

FILING DATE:

September 9, 1999

EXAMINER:

S. Sharareh

ECH CENTER 1600/2011

TITLE:

Topical Dermal Antimicrobial Compositions, Methods for Generating

Same, and Monitoring Methods Utilizing Same

CERTIFICATE OF FIRST CLASS MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence, and any document(s) referred to as enclosed herein, is/are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on this 19th day of January, 2001.

Michael D. Feiler

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

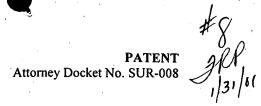
Sir:

Submitted herewith is/are:

Transmittal Form (1 pg.); Response to Restriction Requirement (2 pgs.); and mailroom postcard.

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TOPICAL DERMAL ANTIMICROBIAL COMPOSITIONS,

METHODS FOR GENERATING THE SAME, AND

MONITORING METHODS UTILIZING SAME

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

Applicants initially would like to thank the Examiner for the telephonic interview on January 17, 2001, in which the restriction and election requirements were discussed and clarified.

In the Office action mailed from the U.S. Patent Office on December 19, 2000, for the above-identified patent application, the Office action requires Applicants to restrict prosecution to one of four Groups of claims, each Group being said to recite a distinct invention.

Specifically, Group I includes claims 1-57, Group II includes claims 58-71, Group III includes claims 72-86, and Group IV includes claims 87 and 88.

Applicants provisionally elect, with traverse, to prosecute the invention of Group II (claims 58-71) drawn to "methods of enhancing the duration of efficacy of a dermal formulation, classified in class 522, subclass 1+ or class 524, subclass 1+."

In addition, the Office action requires Applicants to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits. Specifically, the Office action requires election of a species of biguanide polymers, and a species of substantially water-insoluble organic compounds.

Applicants provisionally elect to prosecute the biguanide polymer species poly(hexamethylenebiguanide). Claims 1-42, 45-70, 72-85, 87 and 88 read on this elected species.

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Applicants provisionally elect to prosecute the substantially water-insoluble organic compound species methylene-bis-N,N-diglycidylaniline. Claims 1-88 read on this elected species.

Accordingly, claims 1-42, 45-70, 72-85, 87 and 88 read on the combined elected species.

If the Examiner believes a conversation with Applicants' attorney would be helpful in expediting prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

lin & Brodowshi

Michael H. Brodowski Registration No. 41,640

Dated: January 19, 2001 TESTA, HURWITZ & THIBEAULT, LLP High Street Tower 125 High Street

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